5.39
No 195

Another CRY of the INNOCENT And Oppressed for JUSTICE.

Or a third

Relation of the unjust proceedings at the Sessions held at *Hixes* Hall for the County of *Middlesex*, and at Justice Hall so called, in the *Old Baily* for the City of *LONDON*,

Upon the 18*th*. and 22*th*. dayes of the twelfth Month called *February*, in the the year 1664. with and against 45. of the People of God, whom the world in scorn calls Quakers, of which 39. were sentenced, for a pretended breach of the late Act, 34. of which to be transported to the Island of *Jamaica*, for the space of seven years; and five to *Bridewel*, foure for eleven months, and one for six months; the other six were discharged. Published for the satisfaction of all that desires to know the manner of the proceedings against the said innocent people, *&c.*

Unto which is added a short Postscript.

The wicked are estranged from the womb, they go a stray as soon as they be born speaking lies, their Poyson is like the Poyson of a Serpent, they are like the deaf Adder that stoppeth her ear, which will not hearken to the voice of the Charmers, charming never so wisely, Psal. 58. 3, 4, 5.

Printed in the Year 1665.

The names of them that were ſentenced for Tranſportation *at* Hixes *Hall.*

John Somerfield
Hugh Carter
Bethia Marloe
Matthew Jackſon
John Roſſe
Henry Comings
John Smith
Thomas Wicks
John Harding
Henry Wooding
Sarah Hawes
John Weaſt
John Frith
Thomas Hemſie
Elizabeth Mortemore
Will. Cauderwood
James Kendall
John Pricket
John Gabb
James Kirton
Bridget Dickſon
Charles Rogers
Elizabeth Collings
John Tyſo.

The names of them that were ſentenced to Bridewel, *for the ſpace of a* 11. *Months.*

Sarah Willey
Eſther Prune
Mary Cokes
Sarah Martine.

541

Another Cry of the innocent and oppreſſed for Juſtice, or a third Relation of the unjuſt proceedings at the Seſſions, held at *Hickes* Hall, for the County of *Middleſex*, againſt 34. of the ſervants of the Lord called Quakers, Counſellor *Wharton* ſitting as Judge, who gave ſentence againſt them.

BIlls of Indictments being drawn up againſt the aforeſaid 34 perſons, the Court being ſet, Proclamation was made, that all ſhould keep ſilent, the Priſoners being called, were ſet to the Bar, and their Indictments being read, which was much to this effect, (*viz.*) *That they were taken at an unlawful ſeditious Meeting, or Conventicle, under colour and pretence of Religious worſhip, contrary to the Lyturgie and Practice of the Church of* England, *and for being there aſſembled with divers other malefactors, or diſobedient perſons, in contempt of the King, his Laws, Crown, and Dignity*, &c. alſo the Records being brought into the Court and read, of their (pretended) firſt and ſecond offences; Here followeth the particular examination in ſhort of the Priſoners at the Bar, (*viz.*) *Thomas Hemſye*, and ten more, whoſe names are as followeth (to wit) *John Weſt, Charles Rogers, John Gabb, Sarah Hawes, Elizabeth Mortemore, Hugh Carter, John Prickit, Thomas Whickes, John Somerfield, Heaſter Pruine.*

Judg. Thomas Hemſie, *are you guilty or not guilty.*

Priſ. I am not guilty of that indictment, but as for the meeting at *John Eltons* houſe, that I own, but as for any unlawful meeting, or ſeditious Conventicle I deny.

Court. *If you were at the Meeting, that is enough.*

Priſ. I deſire to hear the firſt and ſecond Convictions read, reade are they returned upon Oath according to the Act? no anſwer was made, but they looked one upon another.

Priſ. If they are not returned upon Oath, they are not according to Law, and *Jury* take notice there is no matter of fact proved.

Court. *Take him away*, and ſo he was ſuffered to ſpeak no more.

Judg. John Pricket, *Are you guilty, or not guilty.*

Priſ. I was not there in contempt of Authority, but in obedience to the God of heaven and earth, and no evil was in my heart againſt the King, but I deſire his welfare, and the welfare of every one in the Kingdom. Court. *Take him away.*

Prif. Is it not to be lamented, that we cannot have the Priviledge to ſpeak for our ſelves, as thieves and murderers have, to which one of the beholders ſaid, *he was ſorry at his heart.*

Prif. Speak to Jury to take heed what they did, for if you are inſtruments to ſeparate me from my wife and children, the Lord God will viſit you for it.

Jud. Elizabeth Mortemore, *Are you guilty or not guilty?*

Prif. I am not guilty of being at any unlawful ſeditious Meeting; witneſſes being called for, there was none did prove ſhe was at the Meeting.

Judg. *Was you at the Meeting?* and one upon the Bench ſaid, *If you will ſay no, we will believe you, for I do bilieve you are a people that will not lie.*

Prif. I ſhall not accuſe my ſelf. Notwithſtanding there was no proof of her being at the meeting, yet the Jury brought her in guilty, who was ſentenced to be tranſported.

Judg. Hugh Carter, *Are you guilty or not guilty.*

Prif. Not guilty of being at any ſeditious Meeting or Conventicle, the witneſſes being ſworn, they asked me *What* I *had to ſay*, I asked them whether they ſat there to Judge for God or man, if for God, how can you condemn People for worſhiping of God.

And the reſt of the Priſoners that were called to the Bar, pleaded much to this effect, that they were not guilty of being at any unlawful Meeting or Seditious Conventicle, much more by the Priſoners would have been ſpoke, but they were forc't from the Bar.

Six more of the Priſoners being called to the Bar, to wit, *John Harding, Matthew Jackſon, James Kendal, Bethiah Marloe, John Roſſe, Henry Woodine.*

Judg. John Harding, *Are you guiltie or not guiltie.*

Prif. Through the grace of God that bears rule in my heart, I have learned to abhor all ſeditious Meeting, as might any ways diſhonour the King, or prejudice his ſubjects.

Judg. *What have you to ſay for your ſelf?*

Prif. Was ever any Law or Statute made, that made men guilty of impriſonment, or Baniſhment, where no matter of evil is proved againſt them; Command was given to take him from the Bar, one of the Turn-keys of *Newgate* pulled him from the Bar, and ſaid, *It is in vain for you to plead*, for ſaid he, *Do you not ſee, the Court, is reſolved to over-rule you.*

Judg.

Judg. John Roſſe, *Are you guilty or not guilty?*

Priſoner. I am not guilty of being at any unlawful, ſeditious meeting.

Court. But what ſay you, are you guilty or not guilty?

Priſon. I diſown all unlawful meetings which are contrary to Gods Truth, and am guilty of no ſuch meeting, of which I am falſly accuſed.

Judg. James Kendall, *Guilty or not guilty?*

Priſ. I am not guilty of that Indictment. The Witneſſes being asked, *whether they did ſee the Priſoner at the meeting?* anſwer was made, *yes, twenty times.*

And the other three Priſoners pleaded much to this effect, that they were not guilty of being at any ſeditious Meeting or Conventicle, &c. So the reſt of the Priſoners were called to the Bar, (viz.) *William Cauderwood, James Kerton, Bridget Dixon, John Frith, John Smith, Elizabeth Collings, Sarah Willey, Mary Cokes, Sarah Martin.*

Judg. William Cauderwood, *Guilty, or not guilty?*

Priſ. (In the fear of God) I am not guilty.

Court. Will you plead, or not? they taking the firſt words for not pleading: the Priſoner being ſilent, *Henry Wrath* (called Juſtice) who was one of Bench, ſaid, *a good dog whip will make him ſpeak.*

Judg. John Smith, *Are you guilty, or not guilty?*

Priſ. Not guilty of the manner and form of that Indictment: then the Witneſſes were called and ſworn, and one of them teſtified, *that he ſaw him above twenty times that day.*

Judg. What have you to ſay for your ſelf?

Priſ. The Witneſſe ſaith I was at a Meeting, but will he teſtifie that it was an unlawful, ſeditious Meeting, and that I was there under colour and pretence of worſhipping God?

Judg. Take him away.

Priſ. Ought not I to have liberty to ſpeak for my ſelf?

Judg. Take him away.

Priſ. Jury men, Take notice what witneſs is here: and ſome of the reſt of the Priſoners pleaded to their Indictment, Not guilty: and the reſt of the Priſoners were forced from the Bar, and were not ſuffered to ſpeak for themſelves.

And one *Henry Comings*, a man being above 69 years of age, being

being brought to the Bar, who pleaded to the Indictment, *Not guilty*, yet notwithstanding, they gave sentence against him for Transportation, without the Benefit of a Jury.

John Tyso was last call'd to the Bar, whose Indictment was in particular, by its self; the Indictment being read, which was to this effect: *John Tyso, You were taken at an unlawful, seditious meeting, or conventicle, under colour and pretence of Religious Worship, contrary to the Liturgie, and practice of the Church of* England, *at* Peter Burdits *house, with about thirty persons more, above them of the family, notwithstanding being twice convicted of the first and second offence, the said* J. T. *the Laws of this Kingdome not regarding, nor the Punishments therein contained, not at all fearing*, &c.

Judg. John Tyso, *Are you guilty, or not guilty?*

Prisoner. The Indictment is false. I was not in any house at a Meeting that day, but was taken in the street, notwithstanding two men swore against him, and nothing would be heard to the contrary.

The Prisoner spake to them, *not to make their own wills their law*; and further, it was in his heart to speak to them, (but he was thrust from the Bar) that our Meetings were not unlawful, nor seditious Meetings, under pretence or colour of Religious Worship, but really in truth and righteousness are our Meetings, to seek the Lord, with whom we have to do, and by whom we have been refreshed, in this day of Trial, and hour of Temptation, wherein we are the more engaged to seek his face, and to call upon his name, at all times, and in all places, which is our bounden Duty, which is according to the Liturgy of the Church of *England*, and likewise, Gods love do we feel shed abroad in our hearts, as we are met together, and his arm of power, and his living presence, which upholds and strengthens us, in faithfulness unto him, so our Meetings are not seditious Conventicles, nor forbidden by the Liturgy of the Church of *England*, and likewise are agreeable to the Scripture of Truth, and in the spirit of the Lord, who saith, *Where soever any are met together in my name, I will be in the midst of them.* Neither doth the Law of *England* condemn any man, except evil be proved against him; but you have not proved in the least any evil against us, neither that our meetings are seditious Conventicles; neither that we meet

under

under pretence, or colour of Religious worſhip; Therefore without the fear of God, or regard to his Laws, have you condemned his innocent people, which, if your proceedings do go forward, will be the cauſe of rending and ſeparating Near and Dear Relations, Husbands from their Wives, and Children from their Parents, and that thouſands of miles from them, and their Native Countrey, whoſe cry will be loud in the ears of the Lord God Almighty againſt you, for no evil have you proved againſt them, but that they were at a Meeting, to worſhip God, which was the anſwer of ſome of the ſervants of the Lord at the Bar, when they were asked what they did there, then anſwer was made from the Bench, *that's enough*; and no further proof was ſought againſt them. (Oh that them who call themſelves Chriſtians ſhould be ſo blind!)

And thus far having accompliſhed their deſigned ends againſt the innocent, the Jury was charged, who went forth, but I judge rather for a deceitful cover, than in conſcience to conſult of the matter, unto whom *J. T.* ſaid, *Take heed what ye do, for we are innocent perſons*, but they being men fit for the purpoſe of the Bench, they made a ſhort return, who brought in twenty eight of the Priſoners guilty, but the other ſix, the Records againſt ſome of them were ſo confuſed and contradictory, that they could not proceed againſt them. But one of them, who was known to the foreman of the Jury, was brought in Not guilty, (notwithſtanding two men ſwore againſt her. So all people may ſee and conſider, how little theſe men regard an oath, and of what uſe ſwearing is amongſt them. And likewiſe, one of the ſix, whoſe name is *James Penington*, was falſly accuſed by one *Cummings* a *Conſtable*, who was there as a Witneſſe, who ſwore againſt the ſaid *J. P.* that he ſaw him in the Meeting who (to wit, *J. P.*) was at *Weſtminſter*, about the third hour, which was near the time they broke up the Meeting which he was accuſed to be at, (which was at *Johns ſtreet* near *Smithfield*) which is near two miles diſtance, and the ſaid *J. P.* coming up into the City, a man came part of the way with him, who teſtified the ſame before the Bench; and likewiſe, as he paſſed up the ſtreet near *Hicks's Hall*, one *Smith*, called Juſtice, teſtified from the *Bench*, *that he ſaw him in the ſtreet*. So all people may ſee how they ſwear, and forſwear themſelves, through

through envy, and ſlaviſh fear of man. But I did not hear that this *Cummings* had one check from the *Bench*.

But them that fear an oath, and cannot ſwear at all, are counted worthy of hard cenſure, and cruel punithments, even Baniſhment out of their Native Country, and counted not worthy to live therein, but the Lord is on our ſide, who pleads our cauſe with our enemies.

The man who ſate as Judge, and Pronounced the ſentence againſt us, was ſmitten of God, and his countenance fell, and much trembling took hold on him, who hung down his head, as when Gods Judgments take hold on the heart of a man for evil doing. And I ſaw that the hand of the Lord God was againſt them all; and the Lord opened my mouth in a living teſtimony before them, that they had condemned what God juſtified, and that the hand of the Lord God Almighty was ſtretched out againſt them, and that at his Judgment Bar they ſhould all appear, who would give Righteous Judgment, but as for your ſentence againſt us, it is little worth, for you cannot baniſh us from the preſence of the Lord, from whence you ſhut your ſelves through evil works.

But at theſe things the upright in heart are not troubled, but in our meaſures are at reſt with the Lord, who will never leave us nor forſake us, as we are given up in Soul, Body, and Spirit, in true obedience and ſubjection unto his Holy will and commands, who is the ſtrength of his people, who gives ſtrength and courage to his own ſeed, and upholds his People in the day of Tri.l, and hour of Temptation, who is God, and there is none beſides him, who ſmites his enemies, and they fall before him; and for this we have a Cloud of Witneſſes, through ages and generations, from the beginning to this very day, that the ſeed of evil doers perſecuted the righteous ſeed of God, and by them were not counted worthy to live upon the earth.

But the Lord is riſen, in this the day of his power, to ſhake terribly the earth, and not the earth only, but the heavens alſo, for this we know, that *Gog*'s numberleſſe number are gathering together to Battel, againſt the day of the Lord God Almighty, and the Lamb and his followers; but the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb ſhall have the victory, who is come, and coming in ten thou-

thousands of his Saints, to judg the world, and convince them of all their ungodly deeds, who will stain the glory of all flesh, and bring into contempt the Honourable of the earth; to abase Princes, and to tumble down Thrones and Scepters, Crowns and Dignities, for a way is the Lord a preparing for his Seed out of *Ægypt*, the Land of Darkness, and the rough wayes must be made plain, and the high hills must be brought low, that the ransomed of the Lord may pass over with Songs of deliverance in their mouths, when the little Hills shall quake, and the high Mountains tremble for fear, and the tall Cedars, and sturdy Oaks shall bend and bow before him, with whom we have to do, who inhabits immortality, and whose dwelling is in the Light, who is God blessed over all for ever. *Amen.*

J. Tyso.

A short Relation of the Tryal, or the Material passages that passed between Judg *Windham*, and 11 of the Innocent people of God, whom the world in scorn calls *Quakers*, at the Sessions at *Justice Hall*, so called, in the *Old Baily*, holden for the City of *London*, upon the 22 of the 11th Moneth, called *February*, 1664. where 10 of the said Innocent people received the unjust Sentence of Transportation to the Island of *Jamaica*, for the terme of 7 years, and one to *Bridewell* for six Months, One *Wadham Windham* being Judge.

The names of them that were sentenced are, *Francis White*, *John Bates*, *Robert Thomas*, *John Gibson*, *George Pryor*, *Nicholas Bly*, *George Tirkington*, *Ann Blow*, *Ami Walker*, *Christopher Todd*. and *Dorothy Aderton* to Bridewell, &c.

Francis White being call'd to the Bar, and his Indictment being read, Judg *Windham* said, *Francis White, guilty or not guilty?*

Prisoner. I am not guilty of being at any seditious meeting or Conventicle.

Judg. *John Bates*, what say you, are you guilty or not guilty?

Pris. Not guilty of that contained in the Indictment. Then the Witnesses were called who were the Marshal, and two or three of

his men, and the Judg asked them, what they see him and the rest of the Prisoners doing at the *Bull and Mouth*? who answered, They see them doing nothing, but that they were met together to worship God, as they commonly say. The Judge asked, if they heard them say nothing? and one of the Martials man said, Yes, *John Gibson* was a speaking. And he was asked, what he heard him say? and he said, He could not remember any thing that he said; but, said he, when we asked them, what they were met there to do? they generally said, To worship God in Spirit and in Truth. And this was all that the Witnesses did swear unto.

Jud. *What do you say* John Bates, *were you not at this meeting*?

Prif. If I should say I were there, or I were not, that will be little, seeing the Evidence hath sworn it; but I desire to know by what Law we are accused. *Judg.* You are not to meddle with the Law, that's enough if you were at the meeting.

Judg. *Robert Thomas, are you guilty or not guilty*?

Prif. Not guilty of being at any seditious meeting. *John Gibson* being called to the Bar, his Indictment being read, the sum or substance of which was as followeth, as far as he could gather, That after two several Convictions, *John Gibson*, with several others, were met together at the *Bull and Mouth, London*, contrary to a late Statute, under colour and pretence of the exercise of Religious worship, in other manner then is allowed of by the Liturgy, or practice of the Church of *England*, and in contempt of the King and his Laws, his Crown and Dignity, *&c.* After which the Judg said, *John Gibson, are you guilty or not guilty*?

Prif. The Indictment being large, and read so meanly by an old man, so that I did not well hear it all, but what I heard of it, I am not guilty of, for I do understand, that I am none of the man that is made mention of in that Indictment for a First and Second offence, as you call it. And so the under Goalers of Newgate took him, with the rest of his Friends, and thrust them violently into a cold nasty hole, amongst Thieves and Murtherers, and not suffering them to speak for themselves, though it was much desired by them, to have pleaded to their Indictments, and also by the Jury, yet all was in vain, for they see the witnesses was confuted in their Evidence; yet the Judg was once about to put the witnesses to prove the two first Convictions, but they

they seeing that they could not do it, the Maior spoke to th: Judg and told him, That the Lord Chief Justice used only to cause the Records to be read, and so made that serve, and so the Judg consented to him, and waved the proving of their first and second Conviction by witnesses.

Jud. George Pryer, *are you guiltie or not guiltie*?

Pris. Not guilty of any Seditious meeting. And so he was set by.

Judg. Nicholas Bly, *are you guiltie or not guiltie*?

Pris. Not guilty of any Seditious meeting.

Judg. *By the grace of God, when we have gotten our Dinner, you shall have a fair trial.*

Pris. If thou mind the grace of God, that will give us our Liberty. After this he was set by.

Judg. George Turkenton, *are you guiltie, or not guiltie*?

Pris. I am not guilty of that thou accusest me of.

Judg. Ann Blow, *what say you to the Indictment, will you conform to the Law of the Nation?*

Pris. The fear and dread of the Lord is upon my heart, therefore I dare not conform to any thing that is unrighteous.

Judg. Ann Blow, *I would shew you so much favour as the Court will allow you, if you will say that you will go no more to that Seditious meeting, meaning the* Bull and Mouth.

Pris. Would thou have me to sin against that of God in my own Conscience? If I were set at liberty to day, if the Lord required it of me, I should go to the *Bull and Mouth* to morrow. And so she was set by.

Judg. Ann Walker, *are you guiltie, or not guiltie*?

Pris. I am innocent, therefore not guilty: And so she was set by.

Judg. Christopher Todd, *art thou guiltie, or not guiltie*?

Pris. I am not guilty of any evil done either to man, woman, or child, in the whole world.

Judg. Dorothy Aderton, *are you guiltie, or not guiltie*?

Pris. I am innocent, therefore not guilty.

Then was called one *Sarah Pluber*, a woman that hath not been owned, but denied by all the aforesaid prisoners ever since they knew her, and she was mute, so she was sentenced to *Bride-*

wel for ſix moneths, under the pretence of her being at Conventicies or Seditious meetings. And the ſaid *Sarah Pluber* hath been looked upon by the other priſoners, ever ſince they knew her, as a woman imperfect in her Natural ſenſes, and by moſt of the Court, looked upon to be a Diſtracted woman, &c. And then the Goalers of *Newgate* took all the priſoners and thruſt them into the aforeſaid naſty hole, amongſt the Fellons; and then *John Gibſon* was brought to the Bar again.

Judg. John Gibſon, *what have you to ſay for your ſelf?*

Priſ. I have ſeveral things of concernment to ſay, if I might have liberty to ſpeak. And firſt, thou ſaidſt, *By the grace of God, when thou hadſt gotten thy Dinner, we ſhould have a fair Trial*, which we have not, for thou ſeeſt how we are abuſed in thy ſight by theſe unreaſonable men, and are not permitted to ſpeak for our ſelves; for my Friends are throng'd up in this naſty hole amongſt Thieves and Murderers, and are not ſuffered to ſpeak in their own defence. And again, I have ſomething to ſay to my Indictment, which I deſire the Jury may take notice of † and that is this, That I am none of the man which is made mention of in this Indictment, for a firſt and ſecond offence (as you call it) And again, that I with others, ſhould be met together at the *Bull and Mouth*, under colour and pretence of the exerciſe of Religious worſhip, in other manner then is allowed of by the *Liturgie*, is utterly falſe, or in contempt to the King, his Laws, his Crown or Dignity, &c. For I do underſtand that the Liturgie doth alow of peoples meeting together at all times, and in all places, to Preach, and Pray, and perform holy Duties to God, &c.

† Well might *J. G.* ſay he was none of the man, when in one of the Records they ſaid, he was a Labourer, living with a man he never knew nor heard of. And in antoher Record, a Gentleman living in another place; alſo he being above 80 miles miles from *London* at that time which the Record ſayes he was convicted in *London*.

Judge. *But were you not at a Meeting at the* Bull and Mouth?

Priſ. I hope it was no offence for me to be at that place, as long as there was no evil done by me there, nor any that was there.

Then

Then the Judge ſpake to the Jury on this wiſe, *Gentlemen, although it's true, as this* Gibſon ſaith, *that it cannot be proved that they were doing any evil there, yet it was an offence for them to be met there, becauſe in proceſſe of time there might be evil done in ſuch meetings, therefore this law was made to prevent them, for* (ſaid he) *if they ſhould once get to a head, we, nor the Kingdome cannot ſtand; for there* (ſaid he) *they come, and under pretence of Religion, they hatch Schiſme, with divers other reviling ſpeeches.*

Mark what *Moab* ſaid of the people that came out of *Egypt*, in *Numbers* 22. 4. Onely a meer cloak, he ſurely could not look upon *Sarah Pluber* to be a hatcher of Schiſm

Priſoner. We are an innocent people, and are clear from all theſe falſe aſperſions caſt upon us, for we neither have done any evil, nor intend to do any evil, the Lord knowes it, and he will judge rightly between you and us in this caſe, alſo there is a witneſſe for God in all your hearts and conſciences, that clears us in this matter, and if it be the will of God, I deſire that you may be forgiven, and that theſe things may never be laid to your charge.

Judg. Will you ſay that you have not been three times convicted of the breach of the late Statute?

Priſoner I deſire to know when, and before whom, my accuſers ſay I was convicted, for it is not my manner to accuſe my ſelf.

Judg. Clark, *read him the Record.*

Priſoner. Two Juſtices Records is not an infallible rule, nor ſufficient for you to Act by, upon ſuch an account as this, that is of ſuch great concernment, for our lives are concerned in this matter, except it had been proved that he was the perſon mentioned in the ſaid Records, which was not. Then the Clark looked over the Records, and ſaid, *John Gibſon, you were convicted for your firſt offence, before* Anthony Bateman, *Mayor, and* Richard Brown, *at the Bull and Mouth, on the fourth day of* Auguſt, but the ſecond he did not mention, and the Priſoner did believe he could not find it.

Priſ.

Prif. I asked if there was any one there that could prove that I was the man which is made mention of in the two first Records? but there was no such Proof made; and so I would have the *Jury* consider of it, and beware what they do, for we are an innocent people, and if you bring in the innocent guilty, the Lord will not hold you guiltless, and so the Goalers took him away, not suffering him to speak any more.

And the said *John Gibson* having since considered of their unjust dealings and proceedings against him, and having well remembred where he was at that time, that is to say, *the fourth day of the Moneth called* August, which the Records say, *he was convicted on, at the Bull and Mouth in* London, the which Record is very false, for he was that very same day near a place called *Malmsbury* in *Wiltshire*, which is counted above eighty miles from *London*, and, if need were, the truth of this might be born testimony unto by twenty or thirty Witnesses; neither did he come to *London* till several weeks after; yet notwithstanding the *Deputy Recorder* of the City, (*viz.*) one *Howel*, passed the aforesaid unjust sentence upon him, with the other nine, for the Judge was gone off the Bench before the Jury brought in their Verdict, and when the Jury brought in their Verdict, the eleven Prisoners were all set to the Bar, and the Jury was asked whether the Prisoners were guilty or not guilty, the fore-man said, Guilty of meeting, and two more of them said, yes, only of meeting: † with that the *Recorder*, and the *Mayor*, and *Brown*, and most of the Bench stood up, and and began to rage exceedingly, and said, it was no Verdict, they must go forth again, and said, are you not all agreed? several of them said yes, when we came hither we were all agreed; so the Bench threatned the Jury so very much, that they made some of them say what they pleased. So the Clark spake to the foreman again, and said, *what is your verdict?* the foreman then said *Guilty.* The Clark

† Observe, the Judge examines the Witnesse onely whether the Prisoner was at the meeting, and yet will not take the Juries Verdict, when they bring them in guilty of meeting onely, but enter the verdict, guilty in such manner as they stand indicted.

Clark asked them all if that was their Verdict, but nigh half of them made no answer to it; yet notwithstanding they passed the aforesaid sentence of Transportation upon ten, and one to *Bridewell* for six Months. Also the other woman, which they looked upon to be distracted, the fore-man of the Jury said, *she was guilty*: although the Jury had nothing to do with her, for she never pleaded to her Indictment, therefore not tryable by a Jury, &c.

A SHORT POSTSCRIPT.

And now surely these things, O ye Judges, and Rulers of the earth, with all other injustice done to the innocent, cannot but enter into the eare of the righteous Judge of heaven and earth, and call for vengeance to come down, upon all them that frameth mischief by a Law, against his innocent and harmlesse people, and be it known unto you, O all ye *Judges* and *Rulers* of this Nation of *England*, with all the inferiour Officers therein, that whatsoever you do unto the innocent people of God, he takes it as done unto himself, and certainly without dispute or controversie, you will be, and are found offending the children of God this day, for it is written, *offences shall come, but woe be to them by whom they come*; for it had been better for you (that you had never been born, or that Millstones were hanged about your necks, and you cast into the sea, and never rise again, then that you should be found offending one of the least of the children of God (one of the least, mark that.)

But O how many hundreds of the innocent People of God, are and have been offended by you, O ye Judges and Rulers, with other inferiour Officers of this Nation of *England*; O that you should be so blinded by the God of the world, whose work and business was alwaies to persecute and destroy the innocent, for can you deny but that it was the devil, the Prince of the power of the aire, that moved *Cain* to destroy his righteous brother; and that moved *Pharaoh* and *Herod*, and all the persecutors of the children of God until this day, and what do you think it is that moves you to persecute and destroy the innocent in this your day, and for no other cause or reason, but barely *for meeting together in the name and fear of the Lord, and worshipping of him in spirit and in truth*: O that you would examine well your hearts, when you are in your chambers, and when no eye beholds you but the Lord, and certainly you will come clearly to see, that this work that you are a doing, is not pleasing

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in the sight of the Lord; but on the contrary, even grieving, and vexing of him, and offending of his innocent people, and therefore you are desired, even for your own eternal good, not to sport your selves in persecuting of an innocent and harmless people any longer, nor in making of wives widows, and children fatherless, as you have done too many already, the Lord forgive you, and if it be his Will, give you true repentance, and this is the desire of our souls, for we have no enmity in our hearts against you, nor any man; nay, not against the greatest of our enemies and persecutors, as they are men; but can and do ever pray unto the Lord for them, that they may be reclaimed from the evil of their wayes, and come to amendment of life; for we are at enmity with nothing but sin, in all whom it is not put an end unto, and so you are all here once more warned, unto whom this may come, to have no more hand in persecuting the innocent people of God, but let the violence done already suffice, for I tell you again, that whatsoever you do unto them, he takes it as done unto himself.

J. C.

THE END.